



# MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

1800 Washington Boulevard • Baltimore MD 21230

410-537-3000 • 1-800-633-6101

Martin O'Malley  
Governor

Anthony G. Brown  
Lieutenant Governor

Shari T. Wilson  
Secretary

Robert M. Summers, Ph.D.  
Deputy Secretary

March 18, 2010

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chair  
Members, Environmental Matters Committee  
Room 251, House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1912

Re: House Bill 1344 – Construction and Development - Permits and Approvals - Expiration Dates

Dear Chairperson McIntosh & Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide some explanation regarding House Bill 1344. House Bill 1344, which is similar to legislation that was passed last year (HB 921), extends the tolling period for certain construction and development permits that are issued by both the State and local governments. This proposed legislation also corrects a minor drafting error in HB 921.

House Bill 1344, as originally introduced, removes the tolling exemption for stormwater approvals. This change would directly impact the implementation of the Stormwater Management Act of 2007 and the new regulations that became effective last May, which would be of obvious concern to the Department. Since the bills introduction, the Department has been able to work with both the sponsor and key stakeholders to development amendments which address our concerns. We have been informed by the bill sponsor that these amendments are in the process of being introduced.

If these amendments are incorporated into House Bill 1344, the Department will have no further concerns about the legislation.

Thank you allowing us to provide information on House Bill 1344. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-260-6301 or [lnissley@mde.state.md.us](mailto:lnissley@mde.state.md.us).

Sincerely,

Lisa Nissley

cc: The Honorable Pamela G. Beidle  
Jay Sakai, Director, MDE Water Management Administration

